THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) and (c) The allocation of rice to various States/Union Territories was reviewed in February, 1989 keeping in view overall availability of stocks in the Central Pool relative needs of various States, improved market availability on arrival of new rice crop and the fact that the supply to Public Distribution System is only supplemental in nature. As a result of the review, the rice quota of most States, including Kerala was reduced uniformly by 20 per cent.

(b) A statement showing demand and allotment of rice to Kerala from January, 1988 to February, 1989 is attached.

Statement

Statement Indicating Demand and Allotment of rice to Kerala from January, 1988 to February, 1989 for PDS.

(in 000' tonnes)

Month	Demand	Allotment
1988		
January . . .	200.0	145.0*
February . .	200.0	135.0
March . . .	200.0	125.0
April . . .	200.0	125.0
May . . .	200.0	125.0
June . . .	200.0	125.0
July . . .	200.0	125.0
August . .	200.0	145.0
September . .	200.0	125.0
October . .	200.0	125.0
November . .	200.0	125.0
December . .	200.0	125.0
1989		
January . .	200.0	125.0
February . .	200.0	100.0

* Includes 20,000 tonnes of rice as special allocation.

Conference of Chiefs of Zila Parishads and Panchayats etc.

465. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a conference of about 8000 Chiefs of Zila Parishads, Panchayat Samithis and Village Panchayats from twelve Northern and Western States was convened in New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what was the purpose of the conference and the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) A Conference of Chairman of Zila Parishad, Panchayat Samities, village Panchayats and Chairmen of Municipal Committees Town Area Committees of the Northern and Western States was organised in New Delhi from 27th to 30th January, 1989. This was attended by about 6,000 delegates of 11 States/UTs consisting of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Goa and Union Territory of Delhi.

(c) The object of the Conference was to have grass-root level consultation with Panchayati Raj bodies or similar self-government structure available at district, block and village levels on issues like structure of Panchayati Raj or self-government district planning, decentralised planning and execution of development programmes. The views expressed by delegates on various issues would be useful in arriving at a National consensus on revitalisation of panchayati raj system.